

MINUTES AND REPORT

OF

MEETING OF COUNCIL

OF

THE COOPERATIVE FEDERATION OF VICTORIA

held at 225 Swanston Street, Melbourne on Monday, 16th March 1981 commencing 7 p.m.

1. PRESENT

Mr. J. N. Black	Chairman
Mr. A. Dash	
Mr. A. Gill	
Mr. E. J. Long	
Mr. B. H. Macintosh	
Mr. M. Rundle	
Mr. W. W. Rawlinson	Executive Officer

Apologies for absence were received from:

Messrs. P. Foster, A. Plant, O. J. Slattery

2. MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held 16th February 1981, having been circulated were adopted as a correct record of that meeting.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Centralised Banking

The sub-committee has finalised a paper for circulation to survey the potential market for this service.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

- 4.i To Premier re location of Registry (Minute 11.i Feb. meeting)
- 4.ii From Murray Goulburn - advising resignation of Mr. I.A. Wood.
- 4.iii From Director, Ministry Employment & Training - forwarding confidential copy of Government's proposed Cooperative Development Programme seeking Federation support in its implementation.

5. FINANCIAL

Statement of income - expenditure 1.7.80 to 28.2.81 and estimated Balance Sheet as at 26.2.81 were presented to the meeting, discussed and received.

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APPLICATION FOR

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6. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Application for membership was received from

Melbourne Access Video and Media Cooperative Limited

supported by Rules, last Annual Report and relevant subscription to 30th June 1981.

The Council welcomed the applicant into membership of the Federation.

7. MEETING WITH MINISTER ADMINISTERING THE CO-OPERATION ACT

The Chairman reported on this meeting which took place on 6th March and dealt with matters related to -

The new Co-operation Act
Establishment of Ministry for Cooperative Societies
Upgrading of Cooperative Registry
Functions of the Cooperative Advisory Council
Establishment of Advisory Officer for Work Cooperatives
Amending legislation to cater for special needs of
Work Cooperatives.

8. MEETING WITH MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

The Chairman reported on this meeting held 12th March 1981, the object of which was a familiarisation briefing for the Minister. In addition the Minister agreed that the Cooperative Federation would be consulted in the event of any proposed amending legislation which might concern vesting of any commodity in any organisation which might be interpolated between producers and their Cooperative.

The Minister agreed that the Cooperative, as an alternate structure for producers, should be included in Agricultural College curriculae.

The Minister also agreed to study ways and means of the State Departmental Officers relating to a Federal Department of Primary Industry section established as a Farmer Cooperative Service.

9. 1981 STATE CONFERENCE

Council agreed

the Conference should be planned for Tuesday, 18th August 1981, at Victorian Government Expo Centre, R.A.S. Showground, with programme built around the following speakers:

*R. Hely, Agrimark Consultants
Professor R. Henderson, University of Melbourne
Registrar, Cooperative Societies
Eric Risstrom,
Chairman, Westralian Farmer Cooperatives
A.F.C.U.L., Chief Executive*

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10. REPORTS

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Work Cooperatives

The Executive Officer reported he had briefed the Minister and arranged a deputation for discussion with the Director, Department Employment & Training on the subject of the State Government's Cooperative Development Programme. The programme which has received Cabinet approval is currently held up in its implementation by the State Treasury. The programme includes provision for appointment of a Cooperative adviser to work from the offices of the Cooperative Federation of Victoria.

Mr. Gill reported the first Newsletter for the Work Cooperative Group had been issued in February; copies were tabled.

The first State Conference for Work Cooperatives is now being planned for May 1981.

Council agreed to Mr. Gill's recommendation

that the Committee of Work Cooperatives affiliated with the Cooperative Federation be the body responsible for policy on disbursement of funds allocated by the State Government for specific Work Cooperative projects and that the Cooperative Federation of Victoria be accountable to the Government for these funds.

10.ii

Advisory Council

Mr. Long reported that the next meeting of the Advisory Council is scheduled for 19th March 1981. Matters for consideration include re-location of the Registry and the draft proposals for a new Co-operation Act and its introduction into Parliament.

10.iii

Cooperative Federation of Australia

Mr. Macintosh reported the Council of the federal body met from 9.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. on Monday, 16th March. Matters discussed included progress on the Fleet Vehicle purchase scheme. Positive indications of use of the scheme along the lines of numbers of vehicles advised are required before a package deal can be prepared by either GM-H or Ford.

The C.F.A. Council agreed a joint Committee of that body and AFCUL should meet to discuss closer working relationships. The meeting is proposed for the last week in April and a nomination to the Committee from Victoria was requested.

It was agreed the nominee would be Mr. O. J. Slattery with Mr. E. J. Long to act as alternate.

Mr. Maybury addressed the meeting on the subject of a Cooperative Financial Institution, needs and relationships of Building Societies, Credit Unions and other Cooperatives.

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11. NEXT MEETING

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12. CLOSURE

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the meeting received indications of likely funds to finance the C.F.A. in the financial year commencing 1.7.81. Four State Federations, excluding Victoria, offered a total of \$10,000 including \$3,000 from Western Australia. This leaves a short-fall of about \$30,000 from anticipated expenditure on the current basis of operations.

The C.F.A. Council considered two alternatives to meet this situation:

- (1) Terminate the present agreement with the Cooperative Federation of Victoria for joint secretariat operation. The Cooperative Federation of Victoria take over the fixed assets of the C.F.A. and provide part-time services for the C.F.A. covered by the indicated income
- (2) The Executive Officer, C.F.A., be seconded for six months from 1.7.81 to an international training seminar project funded by the Commonwealth Government and organised by the Cooperative Federation of New South Wales.

Council of the C.F.V. recorded its concern at this situation and agreed:

- (a) to form a Committee comprising Messrs. Macintosh, Slattery and Rundle;
- (b) to examine in detail these proposals;
- (c) to consider immediately their likely effects on the future of the C.F.A., the C.F.V. and the personnel concerned;
- (d) to submit proposals for financing the C.F.V. in the financial year commencing 1/7/81;
- (e) to meet again at 5.30 p.m. on 31st March 1981 to consider a report from this Committee.

11. NEXT MEETING

This will be decided on 31st March 1981.

12. CLOSURE

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.40 p.m.

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